

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 06868 191030Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 CA-01 SCS-06 DLOS-09
CG-00 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 COME-00 OES-07 ACDA-12
OMB-01 IO-13 EUR-12 /119 W
-----077230 191038Z /16

O 181016Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7234
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
USLO PEKING PRIORITY
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
OAC CAMP BUTLER OKINAWA JA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 06868

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PBOR, EFIS, JA, CH
SUBJECT: CHINESE BOATS REMAIN IN SENKAKUS AREA -- PRC
FIRST SECRETARY COMMENTS
REF: A. TOKYO 6773; B. NAHA 164 (NOTAL)
1. CHINESE FISHING BOATS ONCE MORE WITHDREW BEYOND
JAPANESE-CLAIMED TERRITORIAL WATERS OFF SENKAKU ISLANDS
AS OF 2:15 P.M. APRIL 18, BUT NUMBER STILL IN AREA HAS
INCREASED FROM 140 TO 200, AND AS OF NOON APRIL 19, THEY
HAD SHOWN NO SIGNS OF RETURNING TO CHINA. MOFA CHINA
DIVISION HAS INFORMED US THAT MINISTER DONOWAKI HAS BEEN
INSTRUCTED TO SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH CHINESE FOREIGN
MINISTRY TO LEARN RESULT OF CHINESE INVESTIGATION OF
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INCIDENT, PROMISED DONOWAKI BY ASIAN AFFAIRS DEPDIR WANG
HSIAO-YUN APRIL 14. (PRESS REPORTS DECISION WAS MADE NOT
TO PURSUE MATTER AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL.) DONOWAKI HAS
ALSO BEEN INSTRUCTED TO LODGE PROTEST WITH CHINESE OVER
SENKAKU INCIDENT.

2. WESTERN DIPLOMAT SPOKE WITH PRC 1ST SECRETARY SUNG WEN

AFTERNOON APRIL 18. SUNG, WHO HAD BEEN CALLED IN BY JAPANESE APRIL 13, REHASHED CHINESE POSITION THAT SENKAKUS WAS "ACCIDENTAL" INCIDENT. HE CALLED IT MINOR PROBLEM,

TO BE SOLVED BY DIPLOMATIC MEANS, AND SAID CHINESE AIM WAS TO PUT PROBLEM ASIDE TEMPORARILY. HE BLAMED JAPANESE FOR MAKING IT MAJOR ISSUE IN ORDER TO DELAY SIGNING PFT.

3. SUNG EXPLAINED THAT SENKAKUS WERE WITHIN LIMITS OF CHINESE CONTINENTAL SHELF, SEPARATED FROM JAPANESE SHELF BY ENORMOUS RAVINE. ON WESTERN SIDE OF RAVINE WAS ZHI WEI (SIC) ISLAND, WHICH BELONGED TO TAIWAN, AND ON EASTERN SIDE WAS ZHU MI (SIC) ISLAND, WHICH BELONGED TO JAPAN. SUNG ADDED THAT DEPTH OF SHELF AROUND DIAO YU ISLANDS (CHINESE TERM FOR SENKAKUS) WAS 100-200 METERS, WHILE DEPTH OF RAVINE WAS 1000-2000 METERS. ALL OF THIS PROVED, ACCORDING TO SUNG, THAT BY INTERNATIONAL LAW DIAO YU BELONGED TO CHINA. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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